

READING

AT SCHOOL

If your child is meeting the Reading Standard by the end of Year 6...

...they will be reading at curriculum level 3.

Your child will be reading non-fiction books, chapter books, magazines, and information on the computer. They will be reading these kinds of stories in all areas of the curriculum.

Books at this level look like this:

When reading an article like this your child might:

- look at the title and think what the article might be about
- think about what they already know on the topic
- think of questions that might be answered in the article
- read the first paragraph, sub-headings, and the first sentence of each paragraph
- look for important words
- use speed-reading
- express an opinion
- think of more questions on the topic and look on the Internet for answers.

You may notice that the books your child is reading in Years 5 and 6 are sometimes the same. Your child will be doing more complex tasks with these books in Year 6.

To meet the standard your child will be learning to:

- read longer stories more quickly, and read for longer periods of time
- find information and ideas easily in the story, as well as information that is more hidden – using clues in the story and what they already know
- work out words they don't know the meaning of by using clues in the story or pictures and diagrams
- quickly find important ideas and information by 'skimming' and 'scanning' (e.g., using sub-headings, key words or first sentences in paragraphs)
- know they sometimes need to read from several sources of information (books, magazines, the Internet) to get all the information they need for their work.



"Plight of the Sea Turtle"
by Jill MacGregor
— School Journal, Part 3
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Work together...

Help support your child's learning by building a good relationship with your child's teacher, finding out how your child is doing and working together to support their learning.

READING AT HOME

SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD'S READING

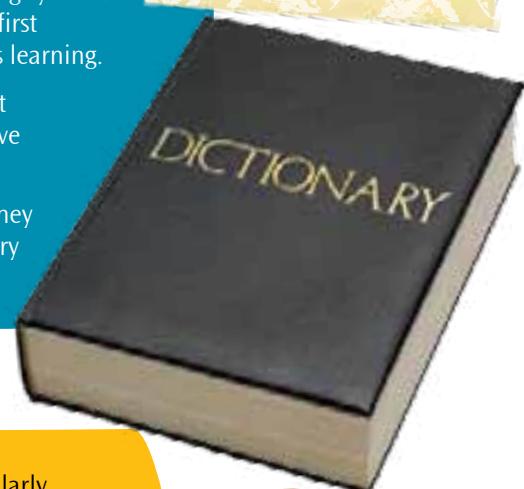
Make reading fun

- Have discussions together about books – read the books your child is reading.
- Encourage Internet research about topics of interest – notice what they are keen on.
- Make your home a reader-friendly home with plenty of books, magazines, newspapers that everyone can read – look for books and magazines at fairs and second-hand shops. Ask your family or whānau if they have any they no longer want.
- Share what you think and how you feel about the characters, the story or the opinions in magazines and newspapers you are reading. It is important that your child sees you as a reader and you talk about what you are reading.



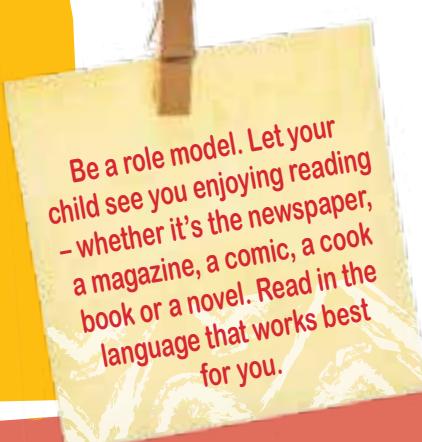
Read together

- Reading to your child is one of the most important things you can do, no matter how old they are. You can use your first language – it does make a difference to your children's learning.
- When you are reading to your child, you can talk about words or ideas in the text that your child might not have come across before.
- Children are often interested in new words and what they mean – encourage them to look them up in a dictionary or ask family/whānau about the meaning and origin.



Keep them interested

- Help your child identify an author, character or series of books they particularly like and find more in the series or by the author.
- Talk about the lyrics of songs or waiata, or the words of poems your child is learning, and see if there are any links to who they are, and where they come from.
- Think about subscribing to a magazine on your child's special interest, e.g., animals, their iwi, kapa haka or sport, or check out the magazines at the library, or on the Internet.
- Go to your local library to choose books together. These might be books your child can read easily by themselves. They might be books that are a bit hard, but your child wants to read so you can help by reading a page to them, then helping them read the next.
- Play card and board games together – the more challenging the better.



Support your child...

As parents, family and whānau you play a big part in your child's learning every day, and you can support and build on what they learn at school too.